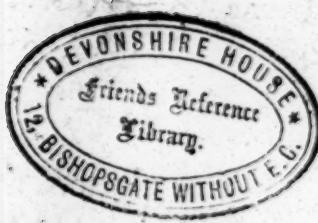


No. 104

(13)



TO THE
REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE
F R E E - M E N
• Of This PROVINCE of
PENNSILVANIA
And Counties Annexed,

In Assembly Conven'd at Philadelphia the 10th of
the 3d Moneth, 1692.

The great and main end of publishing the promulgated Bills so long before your Convention, being (as we are sensible) in order to our Perusal, that we may thereupon have a full Opportunity of Conferring with and Communicating our Minds freely to you (our Deputies or Delegates (of whom we have made Choice, for the Preservation of our Liberties and Properties) touching our Approbation or Dislike of any or all the said Bills. And because of the Difficulty to procure, as well as many Inconveniences that attend a Transient Discourse or Verbal Conference, we have made choice of communicating our Sense and Mind to you by this way and manner, hoping we shall not need to doubt, but you will readily endeavour to gratifie the honest Desires, and answer the just Requests of those, whose Choice you are, by whose Power you Act, and with whose Liberties you are intrusted.

The Thing therefore, touching which we at present give you the trouble of these Lines, is a certain Bill, promulgated for the Assessing and Leavvying One Penny per Pound out of the supposed Value of ev'ry Mans Estate, either Real or Personal, and Two Shillings per Head for those not otherwise Rated; which Great TAX, as it will doubtless amount to a great sum of Money, for which we know no present Necessity, neither is there any particularly alledged in the said Bill; so the deep Impression it will make in our Estates, much of which (as to divers of us) lies dead in Lands, of little value or profit at present, tho' liable to be highly Rated at the Wills and Pleasures of the Promulgators

Promulgators themselves (and others also, who are Traders in Merchandise, being liable to considerable Losses, by reason of the great Risks and Hazards of these Perillous Times (as some have deeply felt) besides the many other ill Consequences thereof, as the ill Foundation it lays for a succeeding Governor, of which you are not insensible) is very grievous, and greatly discouraging to us; and as it may almost Ruin many at present, who having little besides Land, whereon they can scarcely get their Maintenance, and being highly Taxed, may have neither Corn nor Money to defray the same, as well as those others among us, who are uncertain whether we have really any thing of our own, or not; so will you find, that if you once Confirm the said Bill, it will be very Prejudicial and Detremental to the Free-men (who are the Kings Subjects) both of this Province and Counties annexed, in time to come; for the thing once past, will not easily be Recalled; Besides also, you will find it, (as well as ourselves) of dangerous Consequence, and an ill President for the future, for as the People grow in Wealth, and Governours in Power, so shall the Tax be laid Heavir.

And 2dly, If it be so heavy, and grievous, when there is no Necessity therefore, (as we are sensible of at present) what may we expect will come on us, when there is any Colour or Pretence of a Necessity indeed? And though the annexed Counties may suppose they shall not touch this heavy and grievous Burthen with one of their Fingers, let them assure themselves, that if ever they and we be again as formerly, they will Unavoidably taste of the same bitter Cup.

Consider these things, we desire you, as the Agrievance of the Free-men, by Virtue of whose Love, Trust and Confidence, you are what you are at this Time; neither Argue nor Dispute, for Arguments sake, against the Validity of the Arguments herein used, but let them find that Entertainment and Regard with you, as becomes true and faithful Trustees, who intend to answer the end of their Election and Electors, by keeping their Country free from Bondage and Slavery, and avoiding such ill Me-heds as may render Themselves and Posterity liable thereto; for, in short, as we said before, we are not sensible of any present Necessity for raising Money on this account, especially since (if our Neighbouring Counties be in our Condition) the Province is more Indebted already than they are easily capable of paying, both for Quit-Rents, and upon other Publick Accounts, and much more is Needful, in order to Publick Buildings, as Prison, Market and Court-Houses, with other Publick Things, unavoidably Requisite, to defraying which Charge, we understand not the present Tax to be any wayes intended; And since you well know how little a Time Things have been on the Foot they now are, how long will be their Continuance on the same, is Uncertain (although we may well conclude of no very long Continuance, from the Deputy Governors own words, which divers of us heard him express at the Publication of his Commission, [That he Hop'd it would not be Long] which [Hope] doubtless he had some just ground for) and seeing nothing is more Certain, than that no great Charges can have accrue'd in this little Minute of Time, therefore be Wary and Cautious: Remember, an ill Foundation is more than half a degree of to an ill Structure: And think not amiss, because we are plain

(3)

plain with you, or that it consists not with your Dignity or Honour to regard the Will and Mind of those who have, through great Confidence in your Wisdom and Integrity, entrusted their Lives, Liberties and Estates in your Hands, especially since they prelume no farther than becomes honest Free-men, speaking only what Necessity, and the Care of their Posterity compells them to, and That, which being longer delay'd, might come too late, and be said in vain; which we once more hope you will well consider, and answer our Expectations accordingly, by Refusing the Passing of the aforesaid Bill.

Andrew Robinson,
John Jones,
Charles Pickering,
Thomas Peart,
Thomas Harris,
Phillip England,
Charles Saunders,
Phillip Richards,
Joseph Pidgeon,
Daniel Hephy
Zachariah Whitpane,
Albertus Brandt,
John Whitpane,
Anthony Sturges,
William Snead,
Young Morgan,
Abraham Hooper,
Robert Wallis,
Thomas Budd,
Christopher Davison,
William Trotter,
John Brock,
Richard Buzby,
William Buzby,
John Harper, sen.
Richard Sutton,
James West,
Pierre Cherbonnau,
Andrew Seepley,
Claus Rittenhowes,
Isaac Sheffers,
Jacob Isaac,
Leneord Arenes
Peter Kearles,
John Luyken,
Peter Clever,
Walter Symans,
Arent Clinken,
Joseph Ambler,
Thomas Langston

Griffith Jones,
Humphery VVaterman
John Farmer,
John King,
John Dupovys,
George Willcox,
William Carter,
Joseph Fisher,
Francis Raw'e,
John Test,
Edward Douty,
William Hearn,
James Chick,
Joshua Morris,
John Fellows,
Joseph Knight,
John Colley,
James Shatrick,
Daniel Cook,
Hipelitus Lefever,
John Hart,
George Emlen,
John Murrey,
Thomas Hooton,
George Burson,
John Fletcher,
John Gilbert,
Yeamans Gillingham,
Thomas Rutter,
Abraham Tunis,
Harman Op de Graves,
Jacob Shumaker,
Jan Lensen,
Cornelius Severs,
Hanse Malan,
Thomas Shute,
Francis Daniel Pastorius,
James Coate,
John Haywood,
John Craven,

Robert Turner,
Joshua Carpenter,
Thomis Paschill,
John Redman,
Nicholas Pearce,
Samuell Atkins,
Thomas Hill,
John Parson,
Phillip James,
Nathaniel Sykes,
Joseph Walker,
William Paschall,
Cesar Ghifelin,
John Songhurst,
Thomas Janvier,
Henry Flower,
Nehemiah Allen,
Richard Cocket,
William Bevon,
Jeremiah O'bourn,
Ralph Ward,
James Poulter,
James Cooper,
John Cox,
Thomas Jenner,
Martin Hoult,
John Mifflin,
Joseph Yard,
Derick Keiler,
Paul Kaltner,
Gerrit Hendricks,
Derick Sall,
Clos Tomson,
John Douden,
Henry English,
Arnold Castel,
Hugh Gooud,
John Turner,
William Hudson,
Hans Peter Uniat

John

Allen Foster,	John Southworth,
John Loftus,	William Lacock,
John Smart,	Samuel Nichols,
Daniel Jones,	Nicholas Rideout,
John Shippey,	William Crews,
William Hard,	Thomas Bingley,
Daniel van Beeck,	Henry Bowehor,
Edward Smout,	Joseph Brown,
Richard Hilliard,	Daniel Pegg,
John VVaite,	William Shouden,
John Griffith,	Thomas Willard,
Edward Farmer,	Abel Noble,
Randal Spakeman,	Thomas Boyez
Thomas Sisom,	John Carver,
Thomas Curtis,	George Eaton,
Isaac Warner,	Richard Whitfield,
John Fethel,	Benjamin Duffield,
John Saunders,	John Worrell,
Henry Johntan,	John Eaton,
Christopher Sibthorp,	Henry Wells,
Thomas Makin,	Erick Mullakie,
Jofiah Elfreth,	Thomas Kitchin,
William Lee,	Thomas Kember.
William Preston,	John Sibley
Edmund Wells,	Joseph Ashton
Robert Row,	Richard Worrel
Anthony Taylor,	John Ayre
Thomas Fairman,	Thomas Graves
Jan Willemse Huyseen,	Peter Taylor
Nathaniel Lamplugh,	Toby Leech
Henry Furnis,	Michael Gamblia
Benj. Whithead,	Edward White
Francis Cook,	Richard Hall
Richard Pierce,	Richard Dungworth
Anthony Westom,	Thomas Maddox,
George Harmer,	Jacob Hall.
John Furnis,	Thomas Clarke,
Thomas Hall,	Jacob Evons;
William Oxley,	Robert Adams,
Joseph Cross,	Elias Keach
Lyonal Britten,	Michael Bucher,
William Boulding,	Thomas Cross,
John M' Comb,	Thomas Kitchin,
John Stephens,	Patrick Kelly,
Joseph Tugwell,	Johnathan Lewlie,
Gabril VVilkinson	David Sherkis.
Robert Merrifield	

Thomas Godfrey
Edmund M' Veagh,
Edward Eaton
John Wells
William Howard
Cadwelaider Lewis
Thomas Bradford
John Butcher
Daniel Street
Richard Tomlinson
William VVells
Mouns Cocks
Henry Howard
Abraham Pratt
Nathaniel VValton
Robert Longshore
Otto Ernest Koch
Michael Nelson
Erick Cock
Gunner Rambo
Yocum Stouce
Hance Nelson
John Cock
Erick Moulenson
John Rambo, jun.
Andres Bankton, jun.
Lasse Boone,
Andres Bangston
Peter Rambo, jun.
Swan Swanson
Iosem Tanck
John Cocks
Kasper Kass
Neels Nelson
John Scouton
Andres Jones
Andres Rambo
John Stella
Andres VVhilar
Swan Boone
Zacharias Cock
Peter Cock
Banks Bankston
VWilliam Smith
Thomas VVaite
Andrew Griscom

Richard Bassett and John Tatnall.

111
268